

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)
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33. (canceled)

34. (new) A method for copying data from a storage system to a backup system of a plurality of backup systems, said storage system coupled with said backup system via a storage area network, said method comprising:

receiving a command from a server through a target port of the storage system by a first processor of said storage system to copy data from the storage system to the backup system, wherein said command to copy includes information of a destination device target port of the backup system;

based on said command from said server to copy, determining an initiator port from a plurality of initiator ports of the storage system from which to send said data; and

transferring said data from the storage system by a second processor of the storage system through said initiator port to the backup system through a target port of said destination device under control of said storage system.

35. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein determining an initiator port comprises automatically checking initiator ports of the storage system until an initiator port connecting to said destination device target port is found by the storage system.

36. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein said command to copy is an extended copy command (E-Copy).

37. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein a target port of said storage system receives said command to copy.

38. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein determining an initiator port comprises manually setting an initiator port for said destination device target port.

39. (new) The method of claim 38 wherein manually setting an initiator port for said destination device target port comprises grouping at least one initiator port of the storage system with at least one target port of the storage system which is configured to receive the command to copy.

40. (new) The method of claim 34 further comprising determining whether said destination device target port is available, wherein said data is transferred to the backup system if said destination device target port is available.

41. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein said network is a storage area network.

42. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein said plurality of backup systems are tape drives.

43. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein said storage system is a Redundant Array of Independent Disks (RAID) device.

44. (new) A system for server free back up of information on a network comprising:

a storage system;

a plurality of backup systems; and

a server system configured to send a command to backup data from the storage system to one of the plurality of backup systems;

wherein said command to backup includes information of a destination device target port of the backup system to receive the data, and wherein said storage system is configured to receive said command through a target port of said storage system to backup by a first processor of the storage system, and to determine an initiator port from a plurality of initiator ports of the storage system from which to send said data through an initiator port of said storage system by a second processor of the storage system, based on said command to backup.

45. (new) The system of claim 44 wherein upon determining said initiator port, said second processor of said storage system backs up said data to said back-up system

through said initiator port and said destination device target port independent of said server system.

46. (new) The system of claim 44 wherein said back-up system is selected from the group consisting of a tape library, Hard Disk Drive, Zip Drive, DVD storage, and CD storage.

47. (new) The system of claim 44 wherein said command to backup comprises an Extended Copy Command, having a parameter list, and is sent to a target port of said storage system.

48. (new) The system of claim 44 wherein said storage system comprises:
at least one disk storage unit, comprising said data; and
a disk controller system comprising a plurality of ports and coupled to said disk storage unit, wherein said plurality of ports comprise a first target port for receiving said command to backup from said server system and wherein said disk controller system is configured to automatically check initiator ports of the storage system until an initiator port connecting to said destination device target port is found.

49. (new) A RAID system for executing a backup command from a server system, comprising:

a plurality of disk units for non-volatile storage of data; and
at least one disk controller system coupled to said plurality of disk units and configured to receive and execute said backup command from said server, said disk controller system comprising:

a target port coupled to a first processor to receive said backup command from said server, said backup command including information of a target port of a backup device;

an initiator port coupled to a second processor, said initiator port being determined from a plurality of initiator ports based on information contained in said backup command for connecting to said target port of said backup device via a network; and

a shared memory coupled to said first and second microprocessors for exchanging information; and

wherein when said disk controller system executes said backup command using said second processor without intervention from said server system.

50. (new) The RAID system of claim 49 wherein said first processor runs concurrently with said second processor.